

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 08016 161455Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 DEAE-00 CIAE-00  
INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00  
ICA-11 NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 H-01 /084 W  
-----107420 172003Z /46

R 161100Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8663  
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMCONSUL LAHORE  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 8016

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SNAR, PK  
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: CALL ON INTERIOR MINISTER

1. IN INITIAL CALL ON NEW INTERIOR MINISTER MAHMUD HAROON, I BRIEFED HIM ON NATURE OF USG-GOP COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS CONTROL, IDENTIFIED FOR HIM OUR MAJOR CURRENT CONCERNS OVER EXISTENCE OF HEROIN LABS IN TRIBAL AREAS AND RISING TREND OF OPIUM PRODUCTION IN PAKISTAN, AND URGED HIS SUPPORT FOR GREATER ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS.

2. TO MY SURPRISE THE NEW MINISTER APPEARED TO BE WELL BRIEFED. NOT SO SURPRISING FOR A "POLITICAL" MINISTER IN ZIA'S NEW CIVILIANIZED CABINET, WAS HAROON'S SMOOTH (AND LARGELY POLITICALLY ORIENTED) EXPLANATION OF THE DIFFICULTIES ASSOCIATED WITH EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT ACTION IN THE TRIBAL AREAS. IN ADDITION TO THE STANDARD (AND REAL) PROBLEMS OF LOW INCOMES IN THE AREA, SPECIAL STATUS OF TRIBAL AREAS, ETC., WHICH MOST GOP OFFICIALS CITE AS IMPEDIMENTS TO EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT ACTION, HAROON DWELT AT LENGTH ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN  
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FOR MORE STRINGENT MEASURES AGAINST OPIUM AND HEROIN PRODUCERS IN THE TRIBAL BELT. IN SUM, HAROON ARGUED THAT THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY IN PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS AND PAKISTAN'S FEARS FOR THE FUTURE MILITATE AGAINST STEPS THAT COULD ANTAGONIZE THE PATHANS IN THE TRIBAL AREAS.

3. HAROON EXPRESSED IN VIGOROUS TERMS GOP ABHORRENCE OF

OPIUM PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING AND ITS DETERMINATION TO  
DO ALL IT COULD TO ELIMINATE THESE "CRIMINAL AND MORAL"  
EVILS. NEVERTHELESS, THE WEIGHT OF HIS COMMENTS WAS ON  
WHAT HE AS A PRACTICAL POLITICIAN SAW AS THE REALITIES  
HERE THAT INHIBIT A MORE VIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT EFFORT.

4. COMMENT: WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO, BUT WE'LL  
KEEP TRYING.  
HUMMEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NARCOTICS, DRUG CONTROL, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ISLAMA08016  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** SNAR, PK  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014